



US006731954B1

(12) United States Patent  
Katz

(10) Patent No.: US 6,731,954 B1  
(45) Date of Patent: May 4, 2004

## (54) METHOD OF IMPROVING RADIO CONNECTION QUALITY

(75) Inventor: Marcos Katz, Oulu (FI)

(73) Assignee: Nokia Corporation, Espoo (FI)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 264 days.

(21) Appl. No.: 09/676,729

(22) Filed: Sep. 29, 2000 ✓

## Related U.S. Application Data

(63) Continuation of application No. PCT/FI99/00263, filed on Mar. 30, 1999.

## (30) Foreign Application Priority Data

Mar. 31, 1998 (FI) ..... 980725

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>7</sup> ..... H04B 1/38

(52) U.S. Cl. ..... 455/562.1; 455/517; 342/367

(58) Field of Search ..... 455/562, 63, 65, 455/67.3, 78, 69, 277.1, 277.2, 278.1, 284, 507, 517, 446, 561, 447, 456.4, 550; 342/367, 359, 360, 372, 373

## (56) References Cited

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

5,334,984 A	8/1994	Akaba	
5,722,083 A	* 2/1998	Konig	455/517
5,873,048 A	* 2/1999	Yun	455/562
5,893,033 A	* 4/1999	Keskitalo et al.	455/437
5,999,826 A	* 12/1999	Whinnett	455/562
6,011,974 A	* 1/2000	Cedervall et al.	455/456.4
6,021,330 A	* 2/2000	Vannucci	455/456
6,192,256 B1	* 2/2001	Whinnett	455/562
6,373,433 B1	* 4/2002	Espax et al.	342/368
6,392,595 B1	* 5/2002	Katz et al.	342/367
6,433,737 B2	* 8/2002	Katz	342/367
6,446,025 B1	* 9/2002	Nakamura et al.	702/159

6,490,315 B2 \* 12/2002 Katz et al. ..... 375/149  
6,493,379 B1 \* 12/2002 Tanaka et al. ..... 375/150

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EP	0 756 430	1/1997
GB	2 313 237	11/1997
JP	7170227	7/1995

## OTHER PUBLICATIONS

Sep. 1999, International Search Report PCT/FI99/00263.

\* cited by examiner

Primary Examiner—Cong Van Tran

(74) Attorney, Agent, or Firm—Squire, Sanders &amp; Dempsey L.L.P.

## (57) ABSTRACT

The invention relates to a method of improving radio connection (170) quality in a cellular radio network and a cellular radio network. The cellular radio network comprises a base station system (126) and subscriber terminals (150). Between the base station system (126) and the subscriber terminal (150) there is a bidirectional radio connection (170) using a directional antenna beam (304, 306). In the method, a direction of arrival (302A) of the antenna beam (304A) directed on the basis of a radio signal (304A) received uplink, transmitted by the subscriber terminal (150) is formed in the base station system (126). The base station system (126) transmits a radio signal (306) downlink to the subscriber terminal (150) in the direction of transmission (308) formed on the basis of the direction of arrival (302A). In forming the direction of transmission (308) a preknown number (L) of previously formed directions of arrival (402, 302C, 302B, 302A) are utilized. In accordance with the invention, when forming the direction of transmission (308) each previously formed direction of arrival (402, 302C, 302B, 302A) is weighted in inverse proportion to the temporal distance of the direction of arrival (402, 302C, 302B, 302A) from a known reference time instant (302A). The reference time instant is, for instance, the forming instant (302A) of the latest direction of arrival.

D.r of arrival

Form d.r of Xm 33.03

30 Claims, 4 Drawing Sheets

